

DRINKING WATER FACT SHEET

The recent news articles about groundwater contamination in Area B of Fort Detrick have resulted in a number of employees questioning the safety of the drinking water at the NCI-Frederick. We have prepared the following information to address these concerns.

1. Articles in local newspapers have reported the contamination of the groundwater in Area B of Fort Detrick.
2. Area B is located to the west and on the other side of Rosemont Avenue from the main area of Fort Detrick (Area A). Area B currently contains an animal farm, sanitary landfill and skeet range. It also contains several known disposal sites for material, which was used during the biological warfare program era.
3. Recent soil gas and groundwater samples revealed contamination levels of trichloroethylene (TCE) and perchloroethylene (PCE) above the levels which are considered safe for human consumption.
4. The drinking water supply at Fort Detrick comes from a water treatment plant located on the Monocacy River. The water treatment plant is not affected by the contamination at Area B. **No groundwater is used as a source of drinking water at Fort Detrick.**
5. The Fort Detrick drinking water is sampled from a number of locations, several of which are NCI-Frederick buildings. The samples are analyzed by a certified private water testing laboratory and a copy of the results are provided to the NCI-Frederick.
6. Any questions concerning the drinking water at the NCI-Frederick should be directed to Mr. Bruce Tobias at (301) 846-1905.